



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT

June 11, 2007

Carole J. Olshavsky, FAIA
Senior Executive, Capital Improvements
Columbus Public Schools
270 East State Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Ms. Olshavsky:

This will acknowledge receipt of the Columbus Public Schools' application dated April 24, 2007, to acquire the Fort Hayes Memorial U. S. Army Reserve Center property in Columbus, Ohio for educational utilization.

I am pleased to advise you that the U. S. Department of Education has approved the Columbus Public Schools' application to acquire the remaining portion of Fort Hayes known as the Fort Hayes Memorial U. S. Army Reserve Center. Acquisition of this 9.6 acre property improved with three buildings will complete the Fort Hayes Metropolitan Education Center campus and provide additional space to permanently relocate adult education programs and improve the road access, parking and green space available on the entire campus.

As you know from our previous Public Benefit conveyances, the Department's approval is contingent upon our mutual agreement with any historic preservation covenants proposed by the U. S. Army to be incorporated in our deed of conveyance. With the Columbus Public Schools' extensive historic preservation experience at Fort Hayes and collaborative relationship with the Ohio State Historic Preservation Office, I do not anticipate any issues arising.

I note that your application proposes to secure Building 118 constructed in 1898 and subject to historic preservation restrictions. Because the Columbus Public Schools is proposing active educational utilization and significant investment in this requested parcel as well as the greater Fort Hayes Metropolitan Education Center campus, we have no objection to Building 118 being secured and not actively used for educational purposes since its small at 1,783 square feet and could cost substantial sums to renovate.

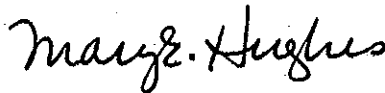
Under the Base Realignment and Closure Act timeframes, the Fort Hayes Memorial U. S. Army Reserve Center must close by 2011. The U. S. Department of Education has requested assignment of the Reserve Center property from the Army for conveyance to the Columbus Public Schools at 100% Public Benefit Allowance discount. We have also notified the City of Columbus Local Redevelopment Authority of the U. S. Department of Education's approval of the application.

Depending on the length of time it takes the Army to vacate the premises and proceed with the disposal of the Fort Hayes Memorial U. S. Army Reserve Center, the U. S. Department of Education may require the Columbus Public Schools to update its proposed program and plan of use to ensure that your needs and financial resources have not changed during the intervening period since application approval. Please recognize that the Public Benefit Allowance discount granted with our approval of your application may change if your proposed program and plan of use is materially revised in the future.

I will keep you informed as we learn more from the Army about its plan for relocation and federal transfer of the Reserve Center. Please contact me at (202) 401-3587 or Mary.Hughes@ed.gov if you have any questions at this time.

Congratulations and I look forward to working with you again on the transfer of the Fort Hayes Memorial U. S. Army Reserve Center property to the Columbus Public Schools to complete your Fort Hayes Metropolitan Education Center campus if the Army accepts the U. S. Department of Education's Public Benefit Conveyance recommendation.

Sincerely,



Mary E. Hughes
Federal Real Property Assistance Program

cc: Vince Papsidero, City of Columbus Local Redevelopment Authority ✓
Peter Wiczorek, U. S. Department of Education